

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

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R 081644Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 970

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJ: NEB CONSOLIDATES ALCAN GASS PIPELINE APPLICATION

1. CANADIAN PRESS REPORTED ON SEPTEMBER 3, 1976 THAT NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD (NEB) HAS DECIDED TO CONSOLIDATE HEARINGS ON APPLICATION TO BUILD ALCAN ROUTE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT WITH HEARINGS NOW UNDER WAY ON APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED EARLIER BY CANADIAN ARCTIC PIPELINE LTD. AND FOOTHILLS PIPELINE LTD.

2. ACCORDING TO BOARD SPOKESMAN QUOTED IN ARTICLE, NEB WILL MAINTAIN CURRENT COMPOSITION OF THREE-MEMBER PANEL WHICH HAS BEEN HEARING GAS PIPELINE APPLICATIONS SINCE APRIL 12. SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT BOARD'S SCHEDULE BECOMING "HECTIC" AS RESULT OF CONSOLIDATING ALCAN APPLICATION BUT BOARD IS CONFIDENT THAT ADDITIONAL WORK ENTAILED "WOULD NOT CAUSE ANY SERIOUS DISRUPTION IN SCHEDULES."

3. COMMENT: NEB SECRETARY BRIAN WHITTLE TOLD EMBOFF THAT TENTATIVE PLAN IS TO TAKE UP HEARING OF ALCAN APPLICATION AT SAME STAGE IN PROCEDURE AS OTHER TWO

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APPLICATIONS, RUN THE THREE IN TANDEM UNTIL HEARINGS

ON ARCTIC AND FOOTHILLS APPLICATIONS ARE COMPLETED, AND
THEN RETURN TO UNFUNISHED PORTION OF ALCAN APPLICATION.
EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AND E/C OFFICER HAVE APPOINT-
MENT WITH NEB ASSOCIATE VICE-CHAIRMAN JACK STABBACK ON
SEPTEMBER 13. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO GET BETTER FEEL FOR
IMPACT OF CONSOLIDATION, IF ANY, ON NEB SCHEDULE.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

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